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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/867,082	05/29/2001	Kazuhiro Okamoto	2803.65577	6025

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EXAMINER

QI, ZHI QIANG

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2871

DATE MAILED: 05/28/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Applicati n No.

09/867,082

Applicant(s)

OKAMOTO ET AL.

Examin r

Mike Qi

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this c mmunication app ars on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 April 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disp sition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 6-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 6-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 6, recitation "... a mechanism attached to the frame and being capable of changing an angle of a display surface of the liquid crystal panel." is indefinite. Because "being capable" does not specifically indicate the function of the mechanism, it only indicates a mechanism that can or may change the angle of the panel, but it ^{does} not have to change the angle of the panel.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 6-7 and 9-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant admitted prior art (AAPA) in view of JP 7-56513.

Claim 6, the AAPA indicates (page 1, line 18 – page 3, line 3 of the specification) that a liquid crystal display device includes a liquid crystal panel, a light source, and a

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frame for supporting the liquid crystal panel and the light source as a liquid crystal display unit (in other words, a liquid crystal display device includes a liquid crystal panel and a light source unit such as a backlight, and the liquid crystal panel and the light source unit are integrally supported by a frame as a liquid crystal display unit), and that structure is conventional structure for a liquid crystal display device.

Concerning a mechanism attached to the frame for changing an angle of the display surface of the liquid crystal panel as AAPA indicated such as the publication JP 7-56506 discloses (Fig.3) that a conventional self-standing type liquid crystal display device having a tilt mechanism (13) attached to a housing, and the function is to change an angle of the display surface of the liquid crystal panel. JP 7-56513 indicates (abstract) that such tilt mechanism facilitates the adjustment of an angle of elevation in a self-standing display device.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to those skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to arrange a liquid crystal display device having a mechanical attached as claimed in claim 6 to facilitate the adjustment of an angle of elevation in a self-standing display device.

Claims 7 and 9-10, JP 7-56516 discloses (abstract; Fig.3) that a tilt mechanism (13) being capable of changing an angle of a display surface of the liquid crystal panel (22) is attached to a back surface side of the display panel (22), and the back surface section of the liquid crystal display unit is substantially parallel to the display surface of the liquid crystal display unit, and the device is a self-standing device including a tilt mechanism (13). Such self-standing display device supports a display part in a stable

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state by a smallest supporting force and facilitates the adjustment of an angle of elevation.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to those skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to use a tilt mechanism in a self-standing device as claimed in claims 7, 9-10 for facilitating the adjustment of an angle of elevation.

5. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over AAPA and JP 7-56516 as applied to claims 6-7 and 9-10 above, and further in view of JP 2000-47209 and US 6,216,989 (Shioya et al).

Claim 8, JP 2000-47209 discloses (abstract; Figs.1-2) that using screw (SC) and screw hole (HLD) to attach the upper case (SHD) and lower case (MCA), and that is the same idea to attach a frame with a tilt mechanism, and that is a conventional way to attach two mechanical parts using screw and screw hole. Shioya discloses (col.9, line 53 - col.11, line 49; Figs 2-5) that using tilting member (7) (display holder, i.e., a frame to hold the display unit) having screw hole (7c) for attaching the tilt mechanism (10). Shioya indicates (col.11, lines 41-49) that the display unit can be easily mounted on and detached from the support structure, and further, the display unit also can be tilted (changing an angle of a display surface) by simply mounting the display unit on the support structure.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to those skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to use screw hole to attach a frame with the mechanism as claimed in claim 8 for achieving easily mount the display panel and easy to perform the angle changing of the display surface.

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Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mike Qi whose telephone number is (703) 308-6213.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

Mike Qi
May 16, 2003


JONANTON
PRIMARY EXAMINER